

1 CLAIMS

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3 1. An imaging media tray for an imaging system, said media tray including a
4 media cassette having a sloping end wall, and a blocking means having a
5 blocking mode adapted to prevent imaging media from moving up said sloping
6 end wall at least when said media cassette is being inserted into said imaging
7 system, and an inactive mode to facilitate transmission of said media to said
8 imaging system, wherein said blocking means adopts said inactive mode after
9 said media cassette is inserted into said imaging system.

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11 2. An imaging media tray according to claim 1 wherein said blocking means
12 includes at least one blocking element movable between blocking and inactive
13 positions.

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15 3. An imaging media tray according to claim 2 wherein said at least one
16 blocking element is biased to said blocking position at least when said media
17 cassette is being inserted into said imaging system.

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19 4. An imaging media tray according to claim 3 wherein said at least one
20 blocking element is mounted on a base such that the weight of said blocking
21 element biases said blocking element to said blocking position.

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23 5. An imaging media tray according to claim 2 including means for moving
24 said at least one blocking element to said inactive position in response to said
25 media cassette being inserted into said imaging system.

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27 6. An imaging media tray according to claim 2 wherein said at least one
28 blocking element includes a blocking face that in said blocking position projects
29 beyond said sloping end wall and in said inactive position does not project
30 beyond said sloping end wall.

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32 7. An imaging media tray according to claim 6 wherein in said blocking
33 position said blocking face extends substantially normal to a floor of said media
34 cassette.

1 8. An imaging media tray according to claim 5 wherein said means for
2 moving said at least one blocking element to said inactive position includes a
3 retainer element movable between start and end positions.

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5 9. An imaging media tray according to claim 8 wherein said retainer
6 element includes a rib for abutting a leading edge of said media cassette when
7 the latter is inserted into said imaging system.

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9 10. An imaging media tray according to claim 8 wherein said retainer
10 element includes a riser at one end thereof and wherein one end of a resilient
11 element is connected to said riser and the other end of said resilient element is
12 connected to said at least one blocking element.

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14 11. In an imaging media tray including a media cassette having a sloping
15 end wall, a method for preventing imaging media from moving up said sloping
16 end wall at least when said media cassette is being inserted into an imaging
17 system, said method including the steps of:

18 providing a blocking means having a blocking mode and an inactive
19 mode;

20 setting said blocking means to said blocking mode at least when said
21 media cassette is being inserted into said imaging system; and

22 setting said blocking means to said inactive mode after said media
23 cassette is inserted into said imaging system to facilitate transmission of said
24 media to said imaging system.

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26 12. A method according to claim 11 wherein said blocking means includes at
27 least one blocking element movable between blocking and inactive positions.

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29 13. A method according to claim 12 including biasing said at least one
30 blocking element to said blocking position at least when said media cassette is
31 being inserted into said imaging system.

1 14. A method according to claim 13 including mounting said blocking
2 element on a base such that the weight of said blocking element biases said
3 blocking element to said blocking position.

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5 15. A method according to claim 12 including moving said at least one
6 blocking element to said inactive position in response to said media cassette
7 being inserted into said imaging system.

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9 16. A method according to claim 12 wherein said at least one blocking
10 element includes a blocking face that in said blocking position projects beyond
11 said sloping end wall and in said inactive position does not project beyond said
12 sloping end wall.

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14 17. A method according to claim 16 wherein in said blocking position said
15 blocking face extends substantially normal to a floor of said media cassette.

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17 18. A method according to claim 15 wherein moving said at least one
18 blocking element to said inactive position includes moving a retainer element
19 between start and end positions.

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21 19. A method according to claim 18 wherein said retainer element includes a
22 rib for abutting a leading edge of said media cassette when the latter is inserted
23 into said imaging system.

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25 20. A method according to claim 18 wherein said retainer element includes a
26 riser at one end thereof and wherein one end of a resilient element is connected
27 to said riser and the other end of said resilient element is connected to said at
28 least one blocking element.